

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ARCHDIOCESAN RITE OF ELECTION Archdiocese of New York

Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020 - First Sunday of Lent  
Time: 2:00pm  
Location: Saint Patrick's Cathedral - Fifth Avenue, New York City

**Participating parish Catechumens, Godparents and Parish Representatives must be registered for the Archdiocesan Rite of Election by February 21, 2020.**

- Registration begins on January 21, 2020.
- Registration is online at: [www.archny.org/rite-of-election](http://www.archny.org/rite-of-election)

### **Please note:**

- + There will be reserved seats for parish groups at the Cathedral. Catechumens, Godparents and their parish representatives are to sit in their assigned seats that they will find in the nave of the Cathedral. We respectfully ask that all other guests find their seats in the back and side of the Cathedral. All are to be at their seats by 1:45 PM.
- + The Catechumens will sign the **Archdiocesan Book of the Elect** at the Cathedral. We invite the Catechumens to sign their names on the *Archdiocesan Book of the Elect* during the Archdiocesan Rite of Election. They are not to sign the parish Book of the Elect at their parish **Rite of Sending**. The Catechumens will be called up by name to sign the Archdiocesan Book of the Elect at St. Patrick's Cathedral during this Rite.
- + There are NO RESTROOMS available for public use in the Cathedral.

### **Before the Rite of Election:**

- + *"Before the rite of election is celebrated, the catechumens are expected to have undergone a conversion in mind and in action and to have developed a sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching as well as a spirit of faith and charity."* (RCIA #120)
- + *"Within the rite of election, the bishop celebrant declares in the presence of the community the Church's approval of the candidates. Therefore to exclude any semblance of mere formality from the rite, there should be a deliberation prior to its celebration to decide on the catechumen's suitability."* (RCIA # 122)

### **After the Rite of Election:**

- "The period of purification and enlightenment, which the rite of election begins, customarily coincides with Lent. This is a period of more intense spiritual preparation, consisting more in interior reflection than in catechetical instruction, and is intended to purify the minds and hearts of the elect as they search their own consciences and do penance."* (RCIA # 138 – 139)

For more information, contact:  
Office of Adult Faith Formation, Archdiocese of New York,  
1011 First Avenue, New York, New York 10022  
Oscar Cruz, Director of the Catechumenate 646-794-2574 [RCIA@archny.org](mailto:RCIA@archny.org)